



LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION PROFILE

(Content from the Board of Regents Web site and/or Board publications; material may be abridged.)

OVERVIEW

Created in 1974 by the Louisiana Constitution, the Board of Regents coordinates all public higher education in Louisiana. The Board began services on January 1, 1975, succeeding the Coordinating Council for Higher Education. Fifteen volunteer members are appointed by the Governor to overlapping six-year terms. In addition, the Louisiana Council of Student Body Presidents elects one student member as its representative on the Board. The State's higher education budget for FY 2013-14 is \$2.6 billion.

EXPECTATIONS

As a manager of positive change, the Commissioner must communicate a clear vision with a clarion voice for higher education coordination, planning and policy. The selected candidate must be an entrepreneurial and fair administrator of the highest integrity. He or she will be politically astute and demonstrate collaborative skills with an ability to balance and promote the Board of Regents' oversight of interconnected missions in P-20 education, research, and public service. The Commissioner must bring leadership characteristics that include being open and receptive to others; organizationally savvy and aware; bold and creative; and responsive and flexible. The Commissioner will be committed to pursuing successfully the Louisiana Board of Regents' goals for higher education and to communicating the Board's plans and goals to stakeholders, including the four public postsecondary systems, the legislature and the governor. The Commissioner will both lead and support the four systems in their efforts to increase the State's educational attainment level and prepare the workforce and an educated citizenry for the State of Louisiana. The Commissioner will join with the Board of Regents to be an advocate for the systems and the entire higher education community.

ATTRIBUTES AND CHARACTERISTICS

- Commitment to the Board of Regents' vision, mission, goals, and policies;
- Record of success in finances, budgeting, and planning;
- Experience in leading public policy development in a complex political environment;
- Ability to promote academic excellence and academic research;
- Understanding of missions for both the four-year universities and the community colleges;
- A students-first administrator who can articulate the developing needs of underrepresented populations;
- Ability to respect and embrace the culture of the state;
- Excellent written and oral skills, along with a solid presence;
- An ability to inspire trust, respect, and open communication;
- Personal strength and sensitivity to manage differences of opinions constructively and creatively;
- Senior level administrative/academic experience in a higher education setting; and
- Earned doctorate/terminal degree from an accredited institution of higher education (preferred).

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Implement policies, rules, regulations, and directives of the Board of Regents;
- Bring recommendations for policies and initiatives to the Board of Regents;
- Develop on-going collaboration with state and postsecondary officials, policy-makers, and the public;
- Build coordination, cooperation, and synergy among the system presidents and with the Board staff;
- Guide, manage, and implement the Board's agenda for governance and policy, including management of meetings and initiatives;
- Act as the Board of Regents' chief agent for development of budgets, grants, strategic planning, and data collection;
- Communicate fully and in an appropriate, timely manner with the Board of Regents;
- Employ, supervise, support, and evaluate staff; and
- Perform other related duties as may be required by the Board of Regents.

OPPORTUNITIES

The new Commissioner has the opportunity to shape this important position into an even stronger statewide voice for higher education. As the leading spokesperson for higher education, he or she will function in a state with the mutually supportive leadership of the four system heads. Louisiana higher education is a collaborative community with shared goals of increased educational attainment, workforce development, and expansion of the body of knowledge. As a chief facilitator and advocate, the Commissioner will be an individual inspired by challenge, change, and commitment.

VISION 2025

Louisiana's Constitution requires the Board of Regents to develop a master plan for higher education in Louisiana. This Master Plan provides a broad vision for the State's higher education system and acknowledges its interdependence with the economy and its many contributions toward better lives for Louisiana's citizenry.

In its Master Plan, the Board of Regents advances its vision for the future of postsecondary education by adopting the following three broad goals and activities: increase the educational attainment of the State's adult population to the Southern Regional Education Board states' average by 2025; invest strategically in university research; and achieve greater efficiency and accountability in the postsecondary education system.

THE SYSTEMS

The Board is responsible for developing and implementing policies for the State's four systems of public higher education institutions: Louisiana State University System, Louisiana Community and Technical College System, Southern University System, and the University of Louisiana System. As such, the Board is charged with planning, coordination, and budgetary responsibility for public higher education in Louisiana. The systems comprise 38 institutions and centers, including two land grant universities, with a total enrollment of 216,613 students:

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| • Louisiana Community and Technical College System | 70,556 |
| • Louisiana State University System | 43,224 |
| • Southern University System | 13,417 |
| • University of Louisiana System | 89,416 |

(Fall 2013 Enrollment)

STUDENT LEADERS

The Louisiana Council of Student Body Presidents was established to promote communication among the students and member schools of Louisiana public higher education; to advance education and social interests; and to support the advancement of higher education. The Council of Student Body Presidents elects one student member to the Board of Regents.

FACULTY SENATES

The Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates represents the full ensemble of faculty members and faculty governance organizations comprising the professional research, teaching, and service cadre for Louisiana higher education. ALFS articulates faculty interests and offers advice before the Board of Regents, at meetings of System management boards, in the Louisiana legislature, for news media, and in public debate. The association organizes a wide range of events, from quarterly statewide conferences to televised political debates to campus visits by higher education experts. It maintains a communications network and participates in the distribution of the statewide publication, *The Faculty Senate Monthly Newsletter*.

BOARD OFFICE

The Board's office is located at 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802. The Board of Regents' and Commissioner's work is supported by an office staff of approximately 60. The Board of Regents is comprised of four divisions, each led by a deputy commissioner:

- Finance and Administration
- Legal and External Affairs
- Planning, Research and Academic Affairs
- Sponsored Programs

ABOUT BATON ROUGE

- Baton Rouge, located in East Baton Rouge Parish, is the capital of the State of Louisiana. The Greater Baton Rouge area has about 820,000 residents.
- The city is a major industrial, petrochemical, medical, and research center of the South and one of the fastest-growing in terms of technology.
- Baton Rouge has a variety of postsecondary educational institutions ranging from private trade schools to land grant universities.
- The Baton Rouge [Metropolitan Airport](#) is located about five miles north of the city center, and the New Orleans [International Airport](#) is located about 70 miles south of Baton Rouge.
- It is a vibrant city with a variety of activities to offer, ranging from theater and orchestras to live street music, festivals, and college sports.
- The major daily newspaper, [The Advocate](#), has served the city since 1925.

MORE INFORMATION: Web Links

[Louisiana Board of Regents](#)

[Public Higher Education Systems](#)

- [Louisiana Community and Technical College System](#)
- [Louisiana State University System](#)
- [Southern University System](#)
- [University of Louisiana System](#)

[Higher Education Fact Book, 2013-14](#)

[Institutional Data/Characteristics](#)

[Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium \(LUMCON\)](#)
[Vision 2025: Master Plan for Higher Education in Louisiana](#)

[Louisiana Department of Education](#) (K-12)
[State of Louisiana](#), [City of Baton Rouge](#), and [Baton Rouge Area Chamber](#)

NOMINATIONS AND LETTERS OF INTEREST

The Louisiana Board of Regents invites letters of interest and nominations for the Commissioner of Higher Education. This position offers great opportunities to an individual with a demonstrated record of success. The successful candidate will bring a keen intellect, enthusiasm, commitment, and dedicated leadership to an organization that promises to be a best-in-class public higher education presence in the country.

To assure the fullest consideration, responses should be received by August 8, 2014. Responses may include a letter of interest specifically addressing the background in relationship to qualifications described (not more than 3 pages); a current résumé; and the names of five professional references with each person's position, office or home address, e-mail address, and telephone numbers. The Commissioner of Higher Education will assume office on or about January 2, 2015.

The search is being assisted by James H. McCormick, senior consultant, AGB Search, jhm@agbsearch.com, 651-238-5188. Responses should be sent electronically (MS Word or PDF Format) to Dr. McCormick at louisiana@agbsearch.com. For more information about the Louisiana Board of Regents and Commissioner search, go to <http://regents.louisiana.gov> or to www.agbsearch.com.

The Louisiana Board of Regents is an equal opportunity employer and will not discriminate against any employee or applicant on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, veteran status, or any classification protected by federal or state law.

